CURRENT LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1 – 42. (cancelled without prejudice)

43. (previously presented) A framework for analyzing a firm, comprising:
   a plurality of network models for connecting one or more elements of value of said firm to one or more aspects of financial performance of said firm, said network models being further comprised of:
      input nodes, hidden nodes and output nodes where each input node represents an element of value and each output node represents an aspect of financial performance; and
      a plurality of relationships between said nodes, each said relationship being characterized by a degree of influence from one node to another; said degree of influence being dependent upon an impact of the element of value represented by said node and its interrelationship with other elements of value.

44. (previously presented) The framework claimed in claim 43 where one or more aspects of financial performance are selected from the group consisting of revenue, expense, capital change, market value and combinations thereof.

45. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 wherein a network model further comprises:
      a summary of value drivers by element of value applied to each of said input nodes, where said summaries summarize the impact of each of said elements of value on one or more aspects of financial performance, the other elements of value and combinations thereof.

46. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 further comprising means for training a best fit network model that identifies a relative impact of each element of value on each component of value where the weights from the best fit models are used to identify the relative contribution of each element of value to each component of value net of any impact on the other elements of value.

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47. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 further comprising means for training best fit network models that identify the relative impact of each element on market value where the weights from the best fit model are used to identify the relative contribution of each element of value to market value.

48. (previously presented) The framework claimed in claim 43 where a plurality of relationships are quantified for a specified point in time within a sequential series of points in time.

49. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 where a relative contribution to the components of value are combined with the present value of said components of value to determine a current operation value of each element of value where the components of value are selected from the group consisting of revenue, expense, capital change and combinations thereof.

50. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 where an elements of value is selected from the group consisting of brands, customers, employees, partnerships, vendors and combinations thereof.

51. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 where the network models further comprise neural network models that are trained using genetic algorithms.

52. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 where enterprise growth options and market sentiment are optionally valued.

53. (previously presented) The framework of claim 43 that further comprises the ability to display a value of the aspects of financial performance, elements of value, growth options, market sentiment and combinations thereof using a paper document or electronic display.

54. (previously presented) A firm analysis method, comprising:
      aggregating firm related data from a plurality of systems in accordance with a common data dictionary

using at least a portion of the data to generate network models which connect one or more current elements of value of said firm to one or more aspects of financial performance of said firm, said network models being further comprised of:

one or more input nodes, hidden nodes and output nodes where each input node represents an element of value and each output node represents an aspect of financial performance, and

a plurality of relationships where each relationship is a function of an impact of each element on other elements of value or an aspect of financial performance;

modifying said network models using one or more future scenarios, each scenario serving to modify the elements of value with consequent effects on the relationships and aspects of financial performance, and

evaluating the scenarios in light of their impact on aspects of financial performance to determine which scenarios should be pursued.

55. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where one or more aspects of financial performance are selected from the group consisting of revenue, expense, capital change, market value and combinations thereof.

56. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 wherein said network models further comprise:

a summary of value drivers by element of value applied to each of said input nodes, where said summaries summarize the impact of each of said elements of value on one or more aspects of financial performance, the other elements of value and combinations thereof.

57. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where one or more weights from a best fit model are used to identify a net impact of each element of value on a component of value selected from the group consisting of revenue, expense, capital change and combinations thereof.

58. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 further comprising means for training best fit network models that identify a relative impact of each element on each of the components of value where one or more weights from the best fit models are used to identify a relative contribution of each element of value to each component of value net of any impact on the other elements of value.

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59. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 further comprising means for training one or more best fit network models that identify a relative impact of each element of value on market value where one or more weights from the best fit model are used to identify a relative contribution of each element of value to market value.

60. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where a plurality of relationships are quantified for a specified point in time within a sequential series of points in time.

61. (previously presented) The system of claim 54 where a relative contribution to one or more components of value is combined with a present value of said components of value to determine a current operation value of each element of value.

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where one or more elements of value are selected from the group consisting of brands, customers, employees, partnerships, vendors and combinations thereof.

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where network models further comprise neural network models.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where a firm is a product, a group of products, a division or a company.

65. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where one or more enterprise growth options, a market sentiment and an impact of different scenarios are optionally valued and displayed using a paper document or electronic display.

66. (previously presented) The method of claim 54 where firm related data includes data captured from the group consisting of a basic financial system, a human resource system, an advanced financial system, a sales system, an operations system, accounts receivable system, accounts payable system, capital asset system, inventory system, invoicing system, payroll system,. purchasing system, the Internet and combinations thereof.

67. (previously presented) A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processor in a computer to perform a firm analysis method, comprising:

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integrating business related data for a firm using a common dictionary,

using at least a portion of the data to generate a plurality of network models which connect one or more elements of value of said firm to one or more aspects of financial performance of said firm, said network models being further comprised of:

one or more input nodes, hidden nodes and output nodes where each input node represents an element of value and each output node represents an aspect of financial performance and

a plurality of relationships where each relationship is a function of the impact of each element on other elements of value or an aspect of financial performance.

68. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where one or more aspects of financial performance are selected from the group consisting of: revenue, expense, capital change, market value and combinations thereof.

69. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 wherein a network model further comprises:

a summary of value drivers by element of value applied to each of said input nodes, where said summaries summarize the impact of each of said elements of value on one or more aspects of financial performance, the other elements of value and combinations thereof.

70. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where one or more weights from a best fit model are used to identify a net impact of an element of value on revenue, expense and capital change.

71. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the method further comprises:

training best fit network models to identify a relative impact of an element on a component of value where one or more weights from the best fit models are used to identify a relative contribution of each element of value to each component of value net of any impact on the other elements of value.

72. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the method further comprises:

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training a best fit network model that identifies a relative impact of an element of value on a market value where one or more weights from the best fit model are used to identify a relative contribution of each element of value to market value.

73. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the relationships are quantified for a specified point in time within a sequential series of points in time.

74. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the relative contributions to the components of value are combined with the present value of said components of value to determine the current operation value of each element of value 34 where the components of value are revenue, expense and capital change.

75. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the elements of value are selected from the group consisting of brands, customers, employees, equipment, partnerships, production equipment, vendors and combinations thereof.

76. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the network models are neural nets.

77. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where the firm is a product, a group of products, a division or a company.

78. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where one or more enterprise growth options, a market sentiment and an impact of different scenarios are optionally valued and displayed using a paper document or electronic display.

79. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 67 where firm data includes data captured from the group consisting of a basic financial system, a human resource system, an advanced financial system, a sales system, an operations system, accounts receivable system, accounts payable system, capital asset system, inventory system, invoicing system, payroll system, purchasing system, the Internet and combinations thereof.

80. (new) An enterprise data integration method, comprising:

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accessing a plurality of enterprise transaction data via an interface coupled to a plurality of data sources, and

converting said transaction data to a common schema using an application software segment, and

storing said converted data in a database for use in processing,

where a plurality of sources further comprise databases for systems selected from the group consisting of a basic financial system, a human resource system, an advanced financial system, a sales system, an operations system, an accounts receivable system, an accounts payable system, a capital asset system, an inventory system, an invoicing system, a payroll system,. a purchasing system and combinations thereof.

81. (new) The method of claim 80 wherein a plurality of sources further comprise a plurality of relational databases where said databases use different data formats.

82. (new) The method of claim 80 wherein an interface further comprises a network connection.

83. (new) The method of claim 80 wherein a common schema further comprises a network schema and said common schema contains a common data dictionary where said common data dictionary defines common attributes selected from the group consisting of elements of value, components of value, currencies, units of measure, time periods, dates and combinations thereof.

84. (new) The method of claim 80 wherein the method further comprises completing a conversion and storage of data before processing begins.

85 (new) A method for supporting and analyzing commerce data using a computer, comprising:

identifying a set of data required for analyzing a commercial enterprise,

preparing the identified set of data for use in processing,

analyzing at least a portion of said prepared data to identify one or more statistics selected from the group consisting of pattern, trend, ratio, average, elapsed time period, percentage, variance, standard deviation, monthly total and combinations thereof, and

using at least a portion of said statistics and data to develop a model of enterprise financial performance using automated learning.

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